CALENDAR

June 2008

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September 18, 2007 - Journées de la culture at Place des Arts: A major cultural rendezvous

Montréal, September 18, 2007 – Place des Arts' *Journées de la culture* have by now become one of this city's major annual autumn events. Again this year, Place des Arts has devised an entire program of shows, workshops and activities that will give the public a chance to meet performers of every genre on September 29 and 30.

Marie Lavigne, Executive Director of Place des Arts, salutes the impressive work of the *Journées de la culture* team, which has been led by Louise Sicuro since the event was created 11 years ago. "Over the years, the *Journées de la culture* have become an incomparable opportunity for encounters between the public and artists from every discipline and background. The spirit of cooperation between our two organizations has never flagged. We are bound together by a shared objective: the dissemination and democratization of culture."

The event will be kicked off at Place des Arts by dancer/choreographer Margie Gillis as she invites the public to dance with her to the music of Gilles Vigneault, who will also attend. A one-of-a-kind event for up to 500 participants!

Dance like a pro? Anyone can do it by attending the ballet class led by a dancer from Les Grands Ballets Canadiens de Montréal (one year of dance experience is required).

Always popular, the season's first *Sons et Brioches* concert—a joint initiative of Jeunesses Musicales of Canada and Place des Arts—presents Dixieband: a magical, foot-tapping show that's by turns informative, frenzied and nostalgic. Family fun guaranteed! Pastries, coffee and juice will be served to the 500 guests to arrive on the Sunday morning (starting at 10:20 a.m.).

New this year: a major beginner's workshop on rhythm and percussion using African drums, with École Samajam, the largest percussion school in Canada.

Crowds always flock to Place des Arts for its guided tours, where experienced guides shepherd them through the backstage goings-on at the performing arts complex. There's three different itineraries and a tour leaving every hour—but remember, space is limited!

Strolling musicians will keep things lively throughout this two-day celebration of culture.

This is just a taste of the many activities offered by Place des Arts. The full program for the *Journées de la culture* at Place des Arts is available at http://www.laplacedesarts.com/. Tel.: 514 842-2112.

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Information:

Sophie Labelle, Project Manager, Place des Arts

Tel.: 514 285-4378

E-mail: slabelle@pda.qc.ca

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